



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/714,304	11/17/2000	Nobuhiro Taki	1566.1001/JDH	4927

21171 7590 05/04/2004

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

VO, TIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2112

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2004

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/714,304

Applicant(s)

TAKI, NOBUHIRO

Examiner

Tim T. Vo

Art Unit

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment filed on 4/12/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-9 and 15-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,10-14 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 November 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

This application has been examined. Claims 1-20 are pending.

Drawings

1. Figures 1-2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 3-4, 10-14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

As for claims 3 and 20, AAPA teaches a serial bus interface device having a function of automatically reconstructing a topology when the device is inserted or withdrawn during operation of a serial bus (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification),

comprising a physical layer circuit serving as a physical interface to which a plurality of identification numbers are simultaneously assigned when the serial bus interface device is connected to the serial bus (see figures 1-2 and page 2 in the description of related art of the current invention specification),

As for claim 4, AAPA teaches data storing unit for storing data on the serial bus, which is received by the physical layer circuit association with the identification numbers (see figures 1-2 and page 2 in the description of related art of the current invention specification).

As for claim 10, AAPA teaches data condition for monitoring data on the serial bus, which is received by the physical layer circuit and when data matching a predetermined condition is detected, outputs a trigger signal, wherein the data storing unit stores data in response to the output of the trigger signal, wherein the data storing unit stores data in response to the output of the trigger signal (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification).

As for claim 11, AAPA teaches transferring data to be transmitted onto the serial bus via the physical layer circuit to the physical layer circuit (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification).

As for claim 12, AAPA teaches transmission data storing unit for storing data to be transmitted (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification).

As for claim 13, AAPA teaches data transmission condition detecting unit for monitoring data on the serial bus, which is received by the physical layer circuit and,

Art Unit: 2112

when data matching a predetermined condition is detected, outputs a trigger signal (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification);

wherein the control circuit transfers data to be transmitted which is stored in the transmission data storing unit in response to the output of the trigger signal to the physical layer (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification).

As for claim 14, AAPA teaches a pair of communication ports (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification); and

converting unit for converting data received from the serial bus via the physical circuit (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification);

wherein data received by one of the pair of communication ports or the converted data is transferred to the other communication port (see figures 1-2 and pages 1-3 in the description of related art of the current invention specification).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-2, 5-9 and 15-19 allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tim T. Vo whose telephone number is 703-308-5862.

The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

Art Unit: 2112

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Tim T. Vo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2112

5/3/04